Archaeological Project Rescue
“Transpeninsular high speed rail Merida-Punta Venado
Yucatán and Quintana Roo States”

Phase opinion survey for construction project feasibility
ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT RESCUE
"TRANS-PENINSULAR HIGH SPEED RAIL MERIDA-PUNTA VENADO, YUCATAN AND QUINTANA ROO STATES"
PHASE OPINION SURVEY FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT FEASIBILITY

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Biography: Pedro Francisco Sanchez Nava has a Bachelor degree in Archaeology for the National School of Anthropology and History (E.N.A.H), Institution in which he pursue the master degree studies in History and Ethno history as well as a PhD in Anthropology.

Among the roles performed in his prolific career in the INAH Sanchez Nava stands out for his appointment as deputy of archaeological saving; the management of the Public Register of Monuments and Archaeological zones; and the Management of Planning, Evaluation and guiding of Projects regarding the National Archaeological Coordination.

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Biography: Manuel Eduardo Perez Rivas has a PhD in Mesoamerican Studies, he is attached to the Leading Board of Archaeological saving project of the National Institute of Anthropology and History.

His main investigation line focuses in the archaeology of the north of Yucatan and central Mexico.
BRIEFING

The current project of Archeological saving takes place in the INAH, addressing the request made by the Government of the State of Yucatan and the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation. In order to take the conducive measurements regarding the protection of the Cultural heritage of the Nation and the area where it’s pretended to built the “Trans-Peninsular High Speed Rail Merida-Punta Venado” in the States of Yucatan and Quintana Roo.

OBJECTIVE

Recording, protection and conservation of the archeological heritage in the potentially affected areas, by means of a diagnosis and precise acknowledgment of the existing monuments on rail curse of the train construction.

METHOD

It will be determined the areas of affectation though works of archeological saving which consists of detailed acknowledgment field routes. By means of geospatial analysis it will be built a cartographic base aimed to project the corresponding information about archeological vestiges recovery.

CONCLUSION

The innervations of archeological rescue and saving not only imply the recovery of archeological data in restricted terms of time and space in sites that will be undoubtedly destroyed but also includes matters that will guaranteed the preservation, in the possible subjects of affected contexts by the modernist construction.
Surprise the train stroke proximity to large settlements as Th'o (Merida), Izamal, Chichen Itza, Zací (Valladolid), Coba and Xcaret.

The preliminary spatial analysis shows a total stroke of 44 sites with potential involvement.

Methodologically, the line becomes a research transect enable comparisons between different cultural sub topics such as:

- territorial political organization,
- settlement pattern, timing and ethnic affiliation, among others. For example, just to the Postclassic period (1000/1100-1550 AD) the trace passes through 5 Hispanic jurisdictions with different types of political organization: Chakan, Cehpech, Ah Kin Chel, Cupul and Ecab.
The acknowledgment of archaeological works looks for the use of new technologies such as the latest generation in GPS allowing the search of precise information in high density of the jungle flora, by this method the archeological data can be integrated directly to a Geographic Information System, that will make it easier the classification of archaeological remains recovered in the surface.

Potential Impact on archaeological sites Izamal - Merida Segment
As part of the prospecting work, the topographic survey allows precise mapping sketch with the distribution of archaeological elements, taking relation points in the layout of reticules for excavation and landmark levels; as well as raising polygonal of potential archaeological sites.

All the information is held once again in digital projections and maps that allow a visual archaeological structure in georeferenced space.
As a result of survey work, to define strategies to preserve the cultural heritage of the states of Yucatan and Quintana Roo, including:

1) Proposed modifications or deviations to the stroke so they do not affect either restricted areas and polygons defined formal sites such as Chichen Itza, Izamal and Coba.

2) Plan salvage downstream in areas that will be affected by the infrastructure of the work.

3) Design with builders minimally measures involving groundwater or land uses that allow preservation in situ of some contexts.

4) Work the dissemination of research results.